

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

**I. Status of the Claims**

Claims 9-14, 18, 19, 22-27, 36 and 37 are amended without the introduction of new matter.

Claims 1-37 are pending subject to election/restriction requirement.

**II. Examiner's Notes**

The Examiner notes that claims 9-14 lack a proper antecedent basis. In response, claims 9-14 are amended to depend from claim 31 as noted above. Also, claims 18 and 22-27 are amended to depend from claim 34, and claim 19 is amended to depend from claim 33, to provide with proper antecedent bases. Further, claims 36 and 37 are amended to properly depend from claims 35 and 36, respectively.

**III. Restriction/Election Requirement**

The Examiner required election of one of the distinct species of the claimed invention. The Examiner states that claims 1-37 are generic to the disclosed patentably distinct species, and requires that one of the front panels and a corresponding back panel, listed in the section 1 in the Office Action, be selected.

In response, Applicants elect a front panel shown in Fig. 3, and a corresponding back panel shown in Fig. 4. Then, Applicants elect claims 1-4, 6, 8-16, 18, 21, 25-29, 31, 32, 34 and 35 as readable on Figs. 3 and 4. The Examiner appears to suggest, as stated in the outstanding Office

Action at page 2, section 1, first line, that claims 1-37 are all generic to any one of the disclosed patentably distinct species listed by figures at pages 2 and 3 in the outstanding Office Action. If the Examiner means to suggest so, Applicants agree to consider claims 1-37 as generic. However, if this is not the case, Applicants provisionally consider claims 1 and 29 as generic, as provided by 37 CFR 1.141.

Further, the outstanding election requirement is respectfully traversed for the following reason.

MPEP §803 states the following:

If the search and examination of all the claims in an application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine them on the merits, even though they include claims to independent or distinct inventions.

The claims of the present application would appear to be part of an overlapping search area. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that there is no undue burden on the Examiner to search all the claims under MPEP §803, and traverse the Election of Species Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of all the claims in the application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the requirement to elect a single disclosed species be withdrawn, and that a full examination on the merits of each of claims 1-37 be conducted. Thus, claims 1-4, 6, 8-16, 18, 21, 25-29, 31, 32, 34 and 35 are elected with traverse.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above remarks, withdrawal of this Restriction/Election Requirement is respectfully requested.

An early examination is respectfully requested.

Dated: January 29, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Hiroyuki Yasuda  
Registration No.: 55,751  
DARBY & DARBY P.C.  
P.O. Box 5257  
New York, New York 10150-5257  
(212) 527-7700  
(212) 527-7701 (Fax)  
Attorneys/Agents For Applicant